

Lost family members

[](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/80/Ruby_-_Winza,_Tanzania.jpg)

Afghanistan is known to have exploited its precious and semiprecious gemstone deposits. These deposits include [aquamarine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beryl#Aquamarine_and_maxixe), [emerald](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emerald), [garnet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Garnet), [kunzite](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kunzite), [ruby](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruby), [sapphire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sapphire), semiprecious [lapis lazuli](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lapis_lazuli).



The above stone is an example of why Afghan lapis lazuli is in a league all its own. Jewelry: [The Collector](http://www.collectorfinejewelry.com); photo: [John McLean](mailto:john@palagems.com).



Fear



Destruction



Hunger



Afghanistan has 3.8 billion barrels of [oil](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oil) between [Balkh](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Balkh_Province) and [Jawzjan Province](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jawzjan_Province) in the north of the country.

[](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d8/HEUraniumC.jpg)

This generates the heat in nuclear power reactors, and produces the fissile material for [nuclear weapons](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuclear_weapon). [Depleted uranium](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Depleted_uranium) (238U) is used in [kinetic energy penetrators](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kinetic_energy_penetrator) and [armor plating](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vehicle_armour). [6]



SICKNESS

[](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/ba/Beryl_emeralds_cut_XH.jpg)



Violent influence